

(7) The Service of the Seventy (Seventy-two) (Luke 10:1-24)

1. In a similar fashion as the Twelve (Lk. 9:1-6 cf. Mk. 6:7), the Seventy are sent forth two by two (Lk. 10:1-12). [GM34: The Twelve Sent Out]
 - a. There is a text-criticism issue regarding the number of disciples.
 - 1) Seventy-two. P^{75} B D 0181 *pc* lat sy^{s.c} sa bo^{ms}; Ad.
 - 2) Seventy. $\text{A C L W } \Theta \Xi \Psi$ ^{f.13} M f q sy^{p.h} bo; Ir^{lat} Cl Or.
 - b. Their mission begins with a full-harvest identification and fervent prayer (Lk. 10:2).
 - c. Their mission recognized angelic conflict difficulties (Lk. 10:3).
 - d. Their mission relied on grace hospitality support (Lk. 10:4-7).
 - e. Their mission featured grace dietary liberty (Lk. 10:8).
 - f. Their mission featured Kingdom signs and wonders (Lk. 10:9).
 - g. Their mission featured mixed acceptance/rejection (Lk. 10:10-12).
2. The Seventy-two are to deliver the Lord's Woe messages, which He first taught His disciples during the Galilean ministry (Lk. 10:13-16 cf. Mt. 11:21-23). [GM21: Woes Upon the Privileged]
 - a. Accountability increases when revelation increases.
 - b. Accountability is undiminished by divine foreknowledge of volitional rejection.
 - c. Sovereignty fixes the conditional circumstances each city/generation/person faces.
 - d. Volition generates the consequences each city/generation/person faces.
3. The Seventy-two missed the point for their victories over demons (Lk. 10:17-20).
 - a. The Twelve were explicitly given authority over demons (Lk. 9:1).
 - b. The Seventy discovered their corresponding empowerment before the Lord spelled out their authority (Lk. 10:17-19).
 - c. Jesus Christ observed Satan falling from heaven in a context related to the mission of the Seventy-two (Lk. 10:18).
 - 1) A vision of the past? Satan's original fall? (Ezek. 28:16)
 - 2) A vision of the present? Satan's crucifixional fall? (Col. 2:15)
 - 3) A vision of the future? Satan's eschatological fall? (Rev. 12:7-12)
 - d. The disciples' motivation for rejoicing should be in what they have received by grace through faith and not in what they can now do by grace through faith (Lk. 10:20).
4. The Lord concluded this episode with a dispensational evaluation (Lk. 10:21-24).
 - a. This accolade is a Holy Spirit prompted confession by Jesus Christ to the glory of the Father's plan.
 - b. The Father's plan included a hiding then revealing personal intimacy with God the Father and God the Son.
 - c. Wise and intelligent prophets and kings were passed over in deference to infant disciples.
5. The Seventy(two) are ripe for ecclesiastical traditions. Eusebius includes an article on the subject in his ecclesiastical history ([H.E. XII](#)).
 - a. Clement of Alexandria, Str. 2.20 cites Barnabas as being of the Seventy.
 - b. Eusebius, HE 1:12 cites Mathias and Judas Barsabbas as being of the Seventy.
 - c. John Mark, Parmenas, Prochorus, Thaddeus, Bartholomew, Timon, John the Presbyter, Hermes, Tychicus, Artemas, Agabus.